



My City Houston Map Viewer Web Site

<http://mycity.houstontx.gov/public> | GIS Helpline 713.837.7777

Developed and hosted by **Enterprise GIS, Planning and Development Dept., City of Houston**

About My City

The 'My City Houston' interactive mapping web site provides the citizens of Houston a means to access the most current **geographic information systems** (GIS) data and aerial imagery (current and historical). These data all hosted within the City's enterprise GIS system that Mayor Bill White initiated in 2006. Users of the web site are provided with a variety of search and identify tools to assist them in finding information relevant to their needs.

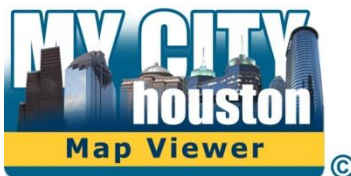
My City - <http://mycity.houstontx.gov/public> .



Background

The **My City** application is a web-based mapping application that allows its users to interact with over 200 map layers and datasets that are relevant to the City's mission. The sites also include multiple sets of aerial imagery and scanned maps. Access to real-time data for traffic conditions, traffic cameras, and stream gages is also provided. The Enterprise GIS team used the same application design employed for the '**My City-Recent Crime**' site that they had developed with the Houston Police Department. The common look-and-feel helps assure a similar user experience for the across mapping applications.

The '**City Map Layers**' tool provides access to the full set of map layers, aerial imagery, and scanned maps. Users can select either the '**Locate Address**' and '**Locate Feature**' tools to quickly navigate to specific addresses or features (City Council Districts, Super Neighborhoods, Plat Tracker Plats, KeyMap grid, Lambert Tiles, Zip Codes, etc.) . A special '**Layer Toggle**' menu provides a quick way for users to display high interest map layers. A "**drill-down**" identify tool provides users a means to quickly find out a lot of information about a location, with handy links provided to navigate the users to externally hosted information (appraisal district property records, Google StreetView™, county web sites, etc.). The site also provides the first map-driven access to the city's ILMS building permit data (ranging back to 1987) with its '**Search Permits**' tool. A "**redlining tool**" is also provided to allow the users to annotate the map. This tool includes the ability to save the graphics to a file. This file can then be transmitted to others so that they can be re-loaded on to **My City** from another location or at another time. The site also includes a print to PDF function.



Enterprise Geographic Information System

Enterprise GIS, City of Houston

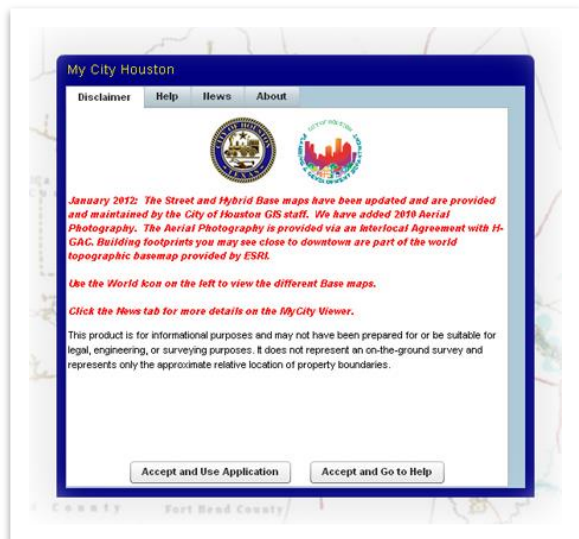
Planning & Development Department, 611 Walker Street, 6th Floor, Houston, TX 77002

Questions or problem about **My City** can be directed to our GIS Helpline **713.837.7777**

For technical questions, please contact:

Jackie Smith @ Jackie.Smith@houstontx.gov | **Daniel Bally** @ Daniel.Bally@houstontx.gov





Getting Started

To view the **My City** interactive mapping web site ensure that **Adobe Flash Player** version 12.0.0.38 or greater is installed. The site is based on the **Environmental System Research Institute's** (ESRI) Adobe Flex API. The following browsers can be used: Internet 7.0 or higher, as well as recent versions Google Chrome, Firefox, Safari, and Opera. The higher version of the Adobe Flash plug-ins required to support printing to PDF.

Help documents can be downloaded using the '**Help Menu**' or the '**Help**' tab on the splash screen.

The City's GIS data are ever-changing. The Enterprise GIS team has gone to great effort to assure that the data in this application are of high quality and that they will remain as current as possible. This has involved forging agreements between the departments responsible for each dataset, and working out processes for regular update of each dataset.

As you access the **My City Houston Map View** web page, the '**My City Main Splash Screen**' displays the "**Disclaimer**" screen. The tabs include information on the following:

- **Disclaimer**
- **Help**
- **News**
- **About**

Click the '**Agree**' button upon accepting with the terms and conditions of using the site. If disagree, click the '**Disagree**' button which takes you to the official '**City of Houston eGovernment Center**' site @ <http://www.houstontx.gov>.

Disclaimer – Please take time to read the important '**Disclaimer**' before using the web site.

Help – Documents for download are available in this section and they are in PDF format. Also, you can find a copy of this '**Overview Guide**', the "**My City Overview Guide**" on the list. Help documents can also be found using the '**Help Menu**'.



My City Overview Guide

If you have any questions, please see the contact person in the list above or the GIS Hotline at (713) 837-7777.

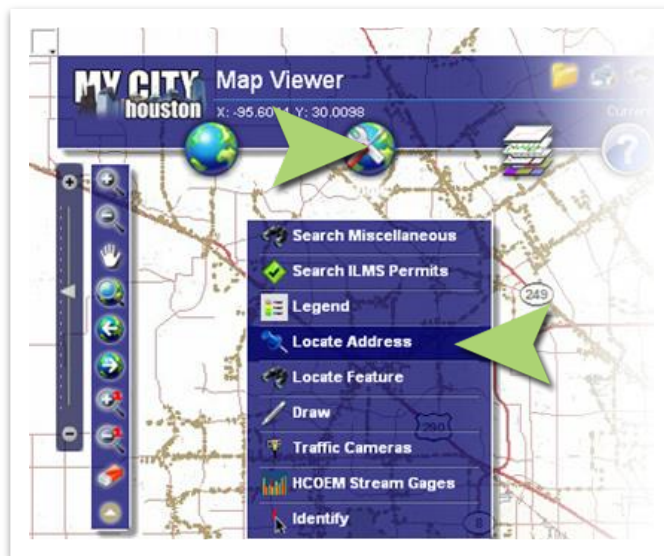
For our most popular hard-copy "printable" maps and other GIS related applications, please visit the '**My City Maps & Apps!**' web site @ <http://mycity.houstontx.gov>, the official **City of Houston, Enterprise GIS** web site.

News – Click the '**News**' tab for more details on the '**My City Houston Map Viewer**'. News is updated on a regular basis and could provide important information to the use of the site. Generally new items include announce of new datasets, functionalities, and tools, or that may alert the user to a problem that has been identified.

About – About the "**My City Houston Map Viewer**". General information about the application, including who to contact to report problems and to request additions or changes to the application.

Using the Locate Address Tool

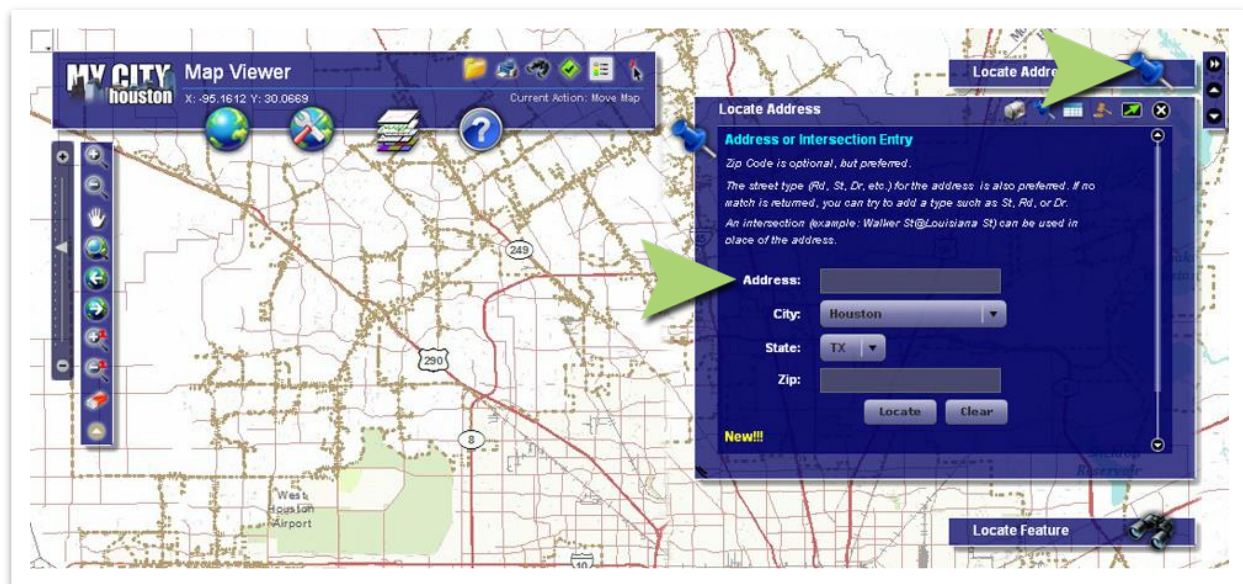
At startup on the '**My City Houston**' interactive mapping application, one can find the '**Locate Address**' tool in its minimized form in the top right portion of your browser window (just above the '**Locate Feature**' tool, see below, "**A**").



Note: The '**Locate Address**' tool should show up in the top right portion of your browser window when the application first opens. If the tool is "**closed**", it can be brought back by selecting the '**Locate Address**' tool from the '**Tools**' menu (see left).

Note: If the tool is "**minimized**" (see below), click on the '**Locate Address**' icon which will cause the tool to expand.

Click the '**Locate Address**' icon opens the **Locate Address window** to search fields.



Enter an **Address, City** and/or **Zip Code** in the address text box field (*Enter address*) provided. Zip code is preferred but not optional. Street types are preferred but not required. An intersection can also be search for using syntax such as the following: **Louisiana St@Walker St**. Often, if you are not able to get a match if you left off the street type and/or intersection, you can add on a street type, even if it is wrong, and then get a match. This is due to the way that address geocoding tools attempt to standardize addresses prior to performing the matching operation.

Once the address has been entered, click the '**Locate**' button.



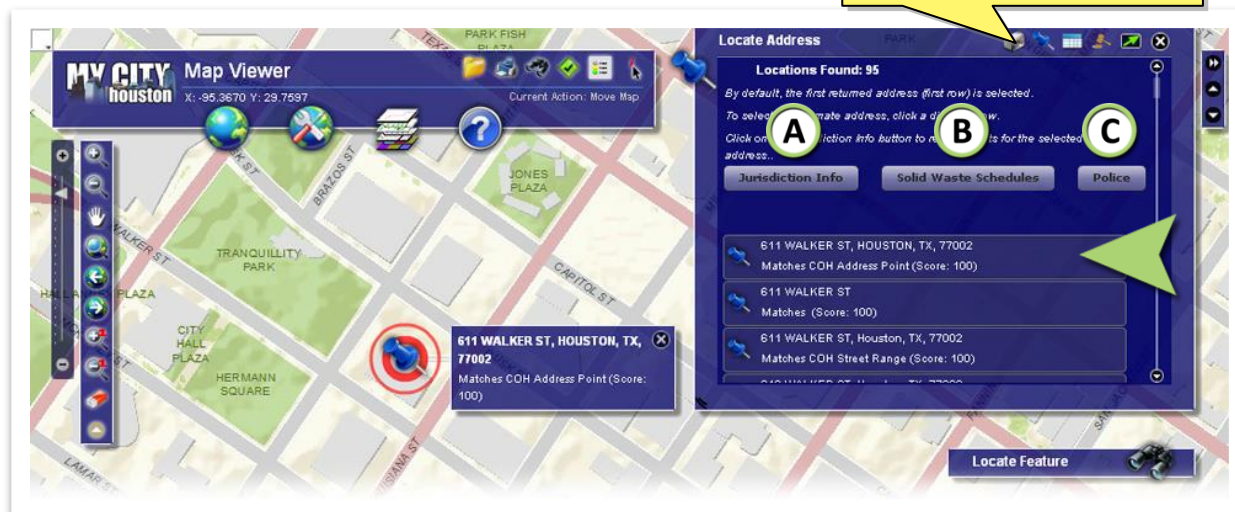
The tool will attempt to locate (or geocode) the address. If results are found, the tool will switch to the **'Results'** pane and list them. The map will zoom to the area around the best match and also highlight that address. If the user wants to zoom to one of the other results, simply click on that result listing in the table shown in the **'Results'** pane.

To find out the **Jurisdiction information** for the selected address, click on the **'Jurisdiction Info'** button, (see "A"). The results will show up in the **'Jurisdiction Info'** pane:

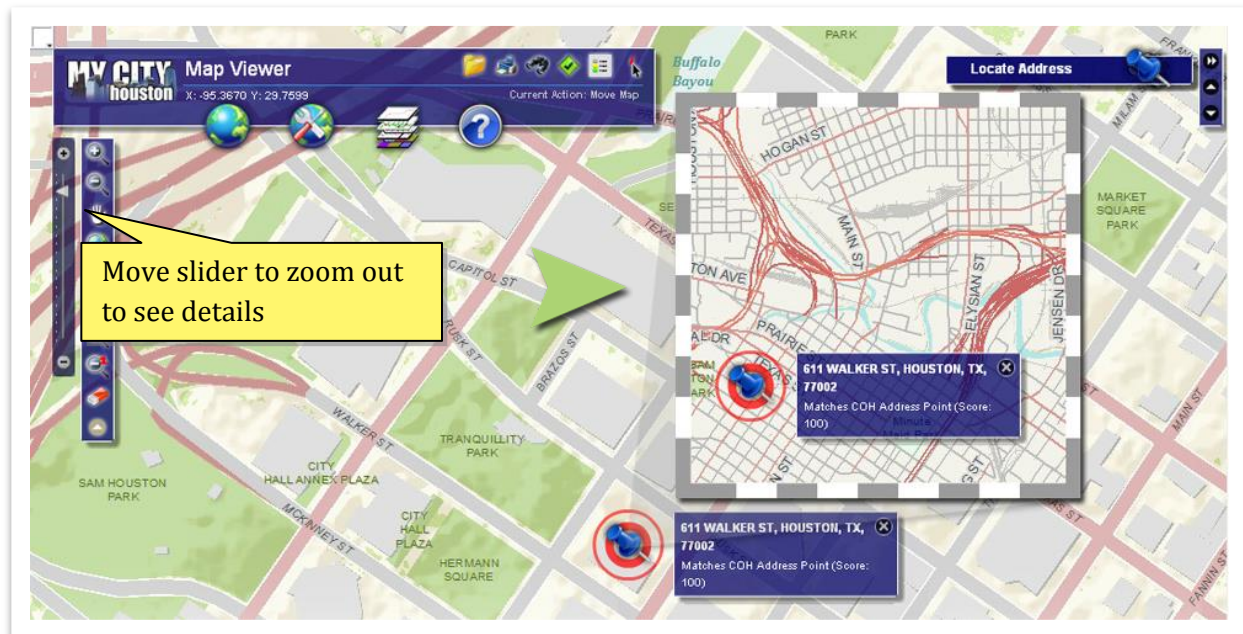
A. Jurisdiction results include information on the following:

- **Mayor's Office** and link to web site
- **City Council District** member, link to web site and District. Example: **District A - K**
- **At-large Council** members, links to web sites and Position No. Example: **1 - 5**
- **Super Neighborhood** name and number, link to Planning and Development Dept. web page
- Information on whether the location is in the **City Limits** (FULL vs LIMITED purpose area) and/or in the **Extra Territorial Jurisdiction (ETJ)**. If it is a Limited Purpose Area, it will report on the types of city service provided based on the original agreement with the appropriate **Municipal Utility District (MUD)**.

'Results' pane: click to Address Search and return to search results.



On the status bar, using the '**Zoom**' tool on the left, click and drag the zoom slider down to view a larger area of the map location (see below).



B. Solid Waste Schedules. Click the '**Address Results**' pane, (third small icons on the top of the tool window) and click on the '**Solid Waste Schedules**' button to report on solid waste collection schedules for an address, see "B").

The results will be shown in the '**Solid Waste Schedules**' pane. If the address falls in a recycling pick-up area, a link will provided the **Solid Waste Department** page that lists printable schedules for recycling pick-up.

C. Police. Click the '**Address Results**' pane, (third small icons on the top of the tool window) and click on the '**Police**' button to find out the HPD **Police Division, District, and Beat for the address**.



My City Overview Guide

By clicking on one of the small icons on the top of the tool window, it is possible to select any of the **Locate Address tool include:**

- **Address** - Address or Intersection Entry
- **Coordinates** - Coordinates Entry of Longitudes (X) and Latitudes (Y).
Example: **-95.3692, 29.7600** is Houston City Hall
- **Address Results** - Location Results
- **Jurisdiction Results** - Jurisdiction Information
- **Minimize** - to minimize
- **Close** - to close window

The '**Address**' is the *default* search mode.

